

no doubt clear up its identity, since we know its exact locality.

But whatever it is, any connection with such a typically "cinerea" species as *M. germana* may safely be eliminated from the study of this troublesome animal.

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LXI.—*The Tuco-tuco of San Juan, Argentina.*

By OLDFIELD THOMAS.

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IN a small collection of mammals from the Province of San Juan made by Sr. Budin there occurs a series of a tuco-tuco allied to that of Catamarca, but apparently subspecifically distinct.

*Ctenomys coludo johannis*, subsp. n.

Essentially like *C. coludo* and *famosus*, but colour paler and greyer.

Size and other essential characters, including the larger size of the bullæ, as in *C. coludo*. Colour, however, averaging much less strongly buffy, approaching "drab-grey," the fore back, nape, and sides of head particularly grey. In some specimens the general colour almost suggests a chinchilla-grey, while others, again, are more distinctly drabby. On the whole, however, the average is distinctly paler and greyer. Below, the difference is still more marked, the ends of the hairs whitish with but faint tinge of buffy. Nasal patch blackish, much more strongly marked than in *coludo* and *famosus*. Caudal crest blackened terminally, this being almost always without darkening in *C. coludo* and *famosus*.

Skull about as in *coludo*, though the zygomata are less widely spread, the zygomatic breadth distinctly less than the bimeatal. Interparietal sutures rarely perceptible.

Dimensions of the type:—

Head and body 199 mm.; tail 97; hind foot 36.

Skull: greatest length 50; condylo-incisive length 48.7; zygomatic breadth 28; nasals 17.7 × 8.4; interorbital breadth 10; bimeatal breadth 30.2; palatilar length 21.8; bulla, oblique horizontal diameter 18, breadth at right angles to last 10; upper molar series (crowns) 8.4; greatest diameter of  $p^4$  3.2.

*Hab.* Department of San Juan. Type from Cañada Honda. Alt. 500 m.

*Type.* Old male. B.M. no. 21. 4. 8. 20. Original number 1233. Collected 5th December, 1920, by E. Budin. Presented by Oldfield Thomas.

“Under trees ; holes made in naked soil.”—*E. B.*

This is a paler form of the more northern *C. coludo* of Tinogasta, Catamarca, with which it agrees in essential characters. The intermediate *C. famosus* of the Famatina chain should also, I think, be considered as only sub-specifically separable from *coludo*.

The southern neighbour of this tuco-tuco is *C. mendocinus*, Phil., which differs widely from it by its less narrow skull, its smaller bullæ, and larger cheek-teeth.

## LXII.—*The Arctonyx of Annam.*

By OLDFIELD THOMAS.

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AMONG the collections contributed by Dr. Vassal to the National Collection there is an example of a hog-badger which, on comparison with those in the Museum, would seem to represent a distinct form.

### *Arctonyx annæus*, sp. n.

Size apparently approaching that of *A. dictator*, judging by the typical skull, which, although immature, already exceeds in length those of the other smaller species. Quality of fur and coloration about as in *A. collaris*, the markings not so strongly contrasted as in *dictator*, their distribution quite as usual.

Skull, of an immature specimen, already longer than in adult specimens of *A. collaris* and *obscurus*, and approaching in length that of the large *A. dictator* of Tenasserim and S. Siam, which it probably equals when fully adult.

Upper molar comparatively long and narrow, with a marked concavity at the middle of its inner edge, its length decidedly greater than in the smaller species, its breadth less than in the larger. And the same with the large lower molar.

Dimensions of the type-skull :—

Condyle-basal length 142 mm.; zygomatic breadth 68 ; length of nasals 42 ; palatal length to back of pterygoids 107 ;  $p^4$ , length on outer edge 9·8, greatest breadth 9·2 ;  $m^1$ , greatest length (diagonally) 17·5, breadth at central internal notch 9·6.

*Hab.* Annam. Type from Nha-trang.

*Type.* Immature male. B.M. no. 10. 3. 10. 4. Collected 29th March, 1909, by Dr. J. Vassal.

This species has the external appearance of *A. collaris*, but is nearly or quite as large as *A. dictator*, from which it differs by its narrow upper molar.